

Claim amendments

Please amend the claims preliminarily as indicated:

1 1. (currently amended) A system for processing a form, comprising:
2 an originating system associated with an originator;
3 a client system;
4 a center system;
5 a user;
6 an identifier-generating software module;
7 a form-handling software module in the client system comprising computer-
8 executable code for sensing a request for a requestor-specific form, which has a first
9 transmission mode, by the originator, for entering first automatically extractable data
10 onto an instance of the requestor-specific form, and for generating a command to
11 produce the requestor-specific form for the originator;
12 an intercepting software module comprising computer-executable code for
13 sensing the command to produce, in a submittable transmission mode, which is a
14 transformation from the first transmission mode, the requestor-specific form,
15 the identifier-generating software module thereupon generating a request-
16 specific identifier uniquely identifying the instance of the requestor-specific form and
17 augmenting the instance of the requestor-specific form with the request-specific
18 identifier;
19 a form-processing software module within the center system and comprising
20 computer-executable code for storing an association of the identifier with the instance of
21 the requestor-specific form, for receiving the augmented instance of the requestor-
22 specific form in the submittable transmission mode after handling by the originator
23 and/or user, for comparing the request-specific identifier of the received requestor-
24 specific form against the association, and for automatically routing an image of the
25 received requestor-specific form to a destination indicated in a corresponding entry in a
26 configuration file.

1 2. (original) A system as in claim 1, in which the intercepting software module is
2 a driver installed in the client system.

1 3. (previously presented) A system as in claim 2, in which the command to
2 produce the requestor-specific form is a command to a standard printer driver within the
3 client system.

1 4. (previously presented) A system as in claim 2, in which the command to
2 produce the requestor-specific form is a command to download the form to the
3 originating system over a network.

1 5. (previously presented) A system as in claim 1, further comprising a
2 coordinating system connected by network to both the client system and the center
3 system for transmitting information identifying the instance of the requestor-specific form
4 to the center system from the client system.

1 6. (original) A system as in claim 5, in which the coordinating system is a web
2 service.

1 7. (previously presented) A system as in claim 1, in which the requestor-specific
2 form includes at least one handwritten comment field, the computer system further
3 including computer-executable code for associating the handwritten comment field with
4 a corresponding report item.

1 8. (previously presented) A system as in claim 7, in which the computer-
2 executable code is further provided for automatically extracting the handwritten
3 comment field as a sub-image and then converting the sub-image into a displayable
4 format.

1 9. (previously presented) A system as in claim 1, in which the form processing
2 module is further provided for automatically extracting data from the received requestor-
3 specific form.

1 10. (previously presented) A system as in claim 9, in which the form processing
2 module includes a format conversion module comprising computer-executable code for
3 automatically converting the extracted data into any of a plurality of predetermined
4 formats for transmission of the extracted data to a recipient in the format that is
5 associated with that recipient.

1 11. (previously presented) A system as in claim 9, in which the center system is
2 an intermediary system between multiple parties for transmission of data extracted from
3 requestor-specific forms sent from different users to any of the multiple parties.

1 12. (currently amended) A system for processing a form, comprising:
2 a client system;
3 a center system that is separate from the client system;
4 a form-handling software module in the client system comprising computer-
5 executable code for sensing a request for a requestor-specific form, which has a first
6 transmission mode, for entering first automatically extractable data onto an instance of
7 the requestor-specific form, and for generating a command to produce the requestor-
8 specific form for a requestor;
9 an intercepting software module in the client system comprising computer-
10 executable code for sensing the command to produce, in a submittable transmission
11 mode, which is a transformation from the first transmission mode, the requestor-specific
12 form, and thereupon for automatically generating a request-specific identifier uniquely
13 identifying the instance of the requestor-specific form before manual completion of at
14 least one data entry field of the form and submission of the form for subsequent
15 processing, and augmenting the instance of the requestor-specific form with the
16 request-specific identifier;

17 a form-processing software module within the center system and comprising
18 computer-executable code for storing an association of a request-specific form identifier
19 with the instance of the requestor-specific form, for receiving the augmented instance of
20 the requestor-specific form in the submittable transmission mode, for comparing the
21 request-specific identifier of the received form against the association, and for
22 automatically routing an image of the received requestor-specific form to a destination
23 indicated by rules that trigger actions based on predefined request-specific conditions.

1 13. (previously presented) A system as in claim 12, in which the automatic
2 routing of an image of the received form to a destination indicated by rules that trigger
3 actions based on defined conditions.

1 14. (previously presented) A system as in claim 13, in which the form-
2 processing module is further provided with computer-executable code for issuing a
3 message to at least one recipient as part of the automatic routing.

1 15. (previously presented) A system as in claim 12, in which the conditions are
2 also a function of at least one item of the extracted data.

1 16. (previously presented) A system as in claim 12, in which the conditions
2 include pre-determined conditions.

1 17. (previously presented) A system as in claim 16, in which the pre-determined
2 conditions are selected from a group consisting of form transmission errors, form
3 reception errors, form completion errors and conditions associated with predetermined
4 routing categories.

1 18. (currently amended) A system for processing a form, comprising:
2 a user system associated with a user;
3 a client system;
4 a center system ;
5 an identifier-generating software module;
6 a form-handling software module in the client system comprising computer-
7 executable code for sensing a request for a requestor-specific form, which has a first
8 transmission mode, by the user, for entering first automatically extractable data onto an
9 instance of the requestor-specific form, and for generating a command to produce, in a
10 submittable transmission mode, which is a transformation from the first transmission
11 mode, the requestor-specific form for the user;
12 an intercepting software module in the center system comprising computer-
13 executable code for sensing the command to produce the requestor-specific form,
14 the identifier-generating software module thereupon automatically generating a
15 request-specific identifier uniquely identifying the instance of the requestor-specific form
16 before manual completion of at least one data entry field of the form and submission of
17 the form for subsequent processing, and augmenting the instance of the requestor-
18 specific form with the identifier;
19 a form-processing software module within the center system and comprising
20 computer-executable code for storing an association of the identifier with the instance of
21 the requestor-specific form, for receiving the augmented instance of the requestor-
22 specific form in the submittable transmission mode, for comparing the identifier of the
23 received form against the association, and for automatically routing an image of the
24 received requestor-specific form to a destination indicated in a corresponding entry in a
25 configuration file.

1 19. (New) A system as in claim 1, in which the first transmission mode and the
2 submittable transmission modes are different formats.

1 20. (New) A system as in claim 1, in which the first transmission mode and the
2 submittable transmission modes are different transmission media.